

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Resolution

At a regular meeting of the York County Board of Supervisors held in the Board Room, York Hall, Yorktown, Virginia, on the ____ day of ____, 2001:

Present

Vote

James S. Burgett, Chairman
Donald E. Wiggins, Vice Chairman
Walter C. Zaremba
Sheila S. Noll
H.R. Ashe

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE BRANDON
ROBBINS ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2001 YORK COUNTY
OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Brandon Robbins was nominated and has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Community Service; and

WHEREAS, Brandon Robbins has demonstrated exemplary service to others, reaching out to touch the lives of people in his school, church, community, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Brandon is a member of the Latin Honor Society and is willing to use this talent by volunteering to tutor fellow Latin students at York High School; and

WHEREAS, he is an active four year member of York's service-oriented Latin Club, in which he has participated in a variety of projects including the ongoing revitalization work for York High's inner garden area and by volunteering to tutor fifth grade students at Yorktown Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Brandon also uses his considerable singing and acting talent to participate in his school's theatrical productions, most recently entertaining the large school and community audiences that attended York High's spring production of "Give My Regards to Broadway," in which he had the lead role; and

WHEREAS, Brandon attends St. Luke's United Methodist Church and has long distinguished himself for his active participation, including his service on the Church's Worship Committee, attending monthly meetings as the youth representative on both the Council on Ministries and the Administrative Board, serving as an usher, and performing volunteer yard work for some of the elderly parishioners; and

WHEREAS, Brandon has also served the community at large, volunteering his time to help at the York County Church Women's United Food Closet; and

WHEREAS, through his church Brandon has also touched needy families in other communities, volunteering to serve on work teams organized to help repair flood damaged homes in Franklin after Hurricane Floyd devastated that city; and

WHEREAS, one of the organizers of this outreach described Brandon as being an instrumental youth leader, not only participating himself, but recruiting other church youth and friends from school to join one of the Saturday work teams that would leave the County at 6:30 a.m., work all day in Franklin, and return about 6:30 that evening; and

WHEREAS, his involvement with his church has also led Brandon to participate in the Appalachian Service Project, a nationally respected program mobilizing teams of teenage and adult volunteers for week long summer housing projects in depressed rural mountain areas of Southwestern Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, and Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, Brandon joined this program during the first summer of age- eligibility following his ninth grade year and has continued ever since, committed to the task of repairing, renovating, or replacing homes to provide shelter that is warmer, safer, and drier for these disadvantaged people; and

WHEREAS, this program is a year round service commitment on the part of its participants since funds must be raised to rent vans to transport the summer teams and to purchase building materials and supplies which must be hauled in as well; and

WHEREAS, the St. Luke's teams prepare months in advance through fundraising efforts such as working on weekends for homeowner donations from such tasks as leaf raking, gutter cleaning, and a variety of other projects such as the construction of wheel chair ramps and storage sheds; and

WHEREAS, the time commitment for the Appalachian Service Project also includes monthly team meetings from November through May to help prepare team members for the almost third world type of cultural experience, including working in some homes without toilet facilities, running water, or electricity; and

WHEREAS, Brandon and his team members are also given yearly instruction in relating to the *people* behind the poverty, so that they may sensitively interact with the families they will be serving in a spirit of true helpfulness and humility; and

WHEREAS, adult team leaders on this project characterize Brandon as being a very mature and active youth leader throughout the months of team preparation, training and fundraising, and commend him for his personal initiative, never needing to be asked to do something, but instead, immediately volunteering to serve as needs arise; and

WHEREAS, Brandon has also proven himself equally committed once the project begins each summer, arising early from the floor of an elementary school or other facility and traveling with his team to begin work at their project site by 8:30 each morning where they work steadily until 4:30 in the afternoon; and

WHEREAS, Brandon is also described as someone who always works hard, performing such tasks as roof repair and, along with two other youths, once planning out and executing the repair of a porch undercarriage, including blocking the walls so as to replace the rotten floor joists, and then installing new floor decking and linoleum; and

WHEREAS, Brandon is also described as being very personable towards the family members whom he is serving, naturally befriending and bonding with them; and

WHEREAS, this young man frequently led morning team devotions as well as evening discussions where team members share about the daily lessons they learned regarding service, relating to other volunteers, and interacting with people from a different cultural background, focusing on how to apply these lessons in their everyday lives upon their return home to York County; and

WHEREAS, Brandon has excitedly related his feelings about this experience on numerous occasions to his nominator and drama director, who himself has participated in this project through his own church and knows firsthand about the depth of commitment that is required and the impact it has on those that take part; and

WHEREAS, Brandon has described this as no less than a true life-changing experience, and one that he plans to take part in again this summer and even afterwards as a college student, hoping to motivate others to serve in this capacity;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this ____ day of _____, 2001, that Brandon Robbins be, and he is hereby, commended and congratulated for being selected as York County's 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Community Service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Brandon be extended the heartfelt appreciation of the Board of Supervisors for his giving spirit and commitment to community service as well as the Board's best wishes for a continued meaningful and rewarding life of service to others.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF YORK
YORKTOWN, VIRGINIA

Resolution

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Present

Vote

James S. Burgett, Chairman
Donald E. Wiggins, Vice Chairman
Walter C. Zaremba
Sheila S. Noll
H.R. Ashe

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE KIMBERLY
HAYS ON HER SELECTION AS THE 2001 YORK COUNTY
OUTSTANDING YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR COMPASSION

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Kimberly "Kim" Hays was nominated and has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Compassion; and

WHEREAS, Kim Hays typifies compassion in its truest sense, and is widely respected for her caring and sensitive nature that constantly reaches out to others; and

WHEREAS, Kim is an exceptional student, earning a 3.78 grade point average and using her considerable writing and organizational talents as co-editor of Grafton High's newspaper and as Senior Class Secretary; and

WHEREAS, her nominator and newspaper staff advisor has observed Kim in her leadership role as co-editor, sincerely trying to see things from the viewpoint of the student reporters and then gently suggesting various draft revisions; and

WHEREAS, her innate sensitivity to the perspective and feelings of others was also beautifully seen this year as a player on Grafton's Varsity Volleyball team; and

WHEREAS, her coach relates how Kim enthusiastically welcomed and immediately befriended an exchange student from Argentina, offering to give her a ride home after the very first day of

practice, introducing her to others, inviting her to join Kim and her friends in social activities, in short, doing everything she could to help this individual feel at ease, fit in, and experience life as a teenager in this country; and

WHEREAS, at the team's banquet this student expressed her gratitude to everyone and then remarked, "I would especially like to thank Kim for being my first friend here;" and

WHEREAS, even some of Kim's friends have characterized her as "motherly," always listening and consoling them whenever they are beset with problems; and

WHEREAS, her sociology teacher and Senior Class Advisor describes Kim as a warm and compassionate person who truly cares about the well-being of her classmates and who, in a larger context, also shows deep concern for a variety of social ills confronting our society; and

WHEREAS, Kim's compassion for the needy and desire to work to help relieve their pain and loneliness has expressed itself in many tangible ways throughout her high school years, including her participation each summer in week long, church-sponsored work camps in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Edison, New Jersey, during which time Kim has worked on home repair projects for disadvantaged people; and

WHEREAS, Kim has taken the time each summer to bond with the people she is helping, befriending elderly persons, individuals with debilitating diseases, and spending time playing with underprivileged children; and

WHEREAS, one sick and elderly widower was so touched by Kim's compassion that he wrote her to express how much it meant to him and people everywhere to have someone take the time to listen to another's pain and to share about their own life; and

WHEREAS, Kim's sensitivity and compassion have also touched those with needs in our own community, as demonstrated by her three-year participation in the York County-Williamsburg Housing Partnership, where she has helped repair homes and perform yard work for individuals who are unable to do this by themselves; and

WHEREAS, Kim's devotion to helping the needy has also been demonstrated by her three year commitment to a soup kitchen outreach at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in downtown Newport News where she helps serve food to homeless and marginally housed people and who comforts, in the words of her nominator, "aging women who need the spirit of a young woman to remind them of the beauty of life;" and

WHEREAS, Kim shared her feelings about this volunteer outreach in an article she wrote for her school newspaper as a tenth grader, where she movingly wrote that "The day before I worked at the soup kitchen I had been worrying about something so petty I can't even remember it...But now, as I approach East Newport News, I suddenly cross this very visible line from my sheltered haven to a world all its own. I catch a glimpse...of a homeless woman huddled around her child, and I feel...somewhat childish for the thoughts I had...earlier. It is thirty degrees today and only the beginning of winter. I appear out of place on these side streets that I didn't even know existed. They are a

complete 180 from the manicured lawns of my neighborhood;” and

WHEREAS, this article further reveals Kim’s heart as she relates that “At 12:00 the food is prepared and the doors are opened...I look at all the faces in the room and the possibility of my family or I being in their place some day is not that strange. They are not all lazy or impolite like society has painted, but instead some of the smartest and friendliest people I have ever met. They present such overwhelming appreciation for what I’m doing that I feel honored just to be in their company...I am a waitress for a day and I do not get paid for it, but that is okay because I leave with something worth far more than money...When you see the homeless as no different than you or I they become in some way more real than they were before. It is easy to overlook the unpleasant things in life when you are not faced with them every day. Seeing this is the greatest reality check you can ever experience;” and

WHEREAS, Kim is now drawing from her profound experiences to help motivate other young people to become involved, meeting together with a team of area teens to design a program with written material for a self-directed retreat model where youth groups can dine with the homeless on a Friday night and then learn about some of the root causes of poverty and ways to lend assistance to people caught in its web; and

WHEREAS, in light of the huge heart this tiny individual has it is no wonder that her nominator asserts that at “first glance, Kim Hays is an unassuming person. One may overlook her until she quietly and effectively makes her presence known through her consuming desire to do her best work or her passion to help others in need. In actuality Kim Hays is a person of unusual depth who works tirelessly to improve the lives of others...Kim’s compassion is vital to our community’s health. She has and will continue to significantly improve the world around her;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the York County Board of Supervisors this __ day of ____, 2001, that Kimberly Hays be, and she is hereby, commended and congratulated for being selected as York County’s 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Compassion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Kim be extended the best wishes of the Board of Supervisors as she continues to live a life of exemplary love and concern for others, and may she take great encouragement in knowing that our world is a better place because she is with us.

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Donald E. Wiggins, Vice Chairman
Walter C. Zaremba
Sheila S. Noll
H.R. Ashe

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE JONATHAN
DUEY ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2001 YORK COUNTY OUTSTANDING
YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan "Jon" Duey has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Overall Achievement; and

WHEREAS, Jon Duey epitomizes achievement with his outstanding accomplishments and participation in a wide variety of endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Jon excels at using his considerable talents to the utmost, and is engaged in an array of activities that seem to defy the total number of waking hours in a week; and

WHEREAS, Jon's *academic* achievements are demonstrated by his advanced course work at Tabb High School, his 3.89 grade point average, by his being named a Delegate to Boys State last year, by his membership in the National Honor Society and the Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society, by his membership in the Technology Student Association, and by his participation on Tabb's Academic Challenge Team; and

WHEREAS, Jon's *scholastic leadership* achievements are extremely noteworthy, and include being selected as Tabb's representative to the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Program as a sophomore, being named to Boy's State last summer where he won recognition as First Place Public

Speaker, receiving recognition this year as Tabb's October Senior of the Month, and serving very actively in his capacity as Senior Class President; and

WHEREAS, Jon has also demonstrated unusual leadership in the Boy Scouts of America program, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, which is attained by only 3 to 5% of all scouts nationwide, and subsequently earning the Vigil Honor, bestowed on only 2% of all members of the Boy Scout's community service arm known as the Order of the Arrow, a group Jon has been actively involved in for the past four years and in which he has distinguished himself at both the state level and by being selected twice as one of Virginia's representatives to the national convention; and

WHEREAS, Jon's *service* achievements have included volunteering in a number of projects sponsored by Tabb High's Key Club, tutoring sixth grade math and science, serving in his church's nursery and youth band as well as compiling sermon notes and songs on PowerPoint projection for Sunday morning worship, and by working on a wide variety of projects through the Order of the Arrow, including community service initiatives such as helping to direct traffic for various community events, as well as extensive service given to the scouting program, including road and building maintenance at the Camp Chickahominy scout facility and by serving on staff for three years to organize an annual weekend Camporee attended by some 500 to 600 area scouts; and

WHEREAS, in addition to all of these exemplary achievements and time consuming pursuits Jon has somehow managed to find enough "spare time" to participate as an editorialist for the school newspaper, as a member of Tabb's Spirit Club and Debate Team, as a Drama participant where he most recently had one of the leading roles in Tabb's spring production of "The Music Man," as an accomplished tuba player in the school band where he has served as section leader through all four years of high school, and as a member of a variety of athletic teams including Track and Cross Country for two years each, Wrestling and Tennis for one year each, and in Swimming this year where he earned a varsity letter; and

WHEREAS, Jon has also worked each summer, the only time his demanding schedule will allow, holding jobs at Farm Fresh, Baskin Robbins, and as a Sales Associate with Polo Ralph Lauren; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the many noteworthy achievements previously highlighted, Jon is continually described by his principal, his student activities director, his Senior Class advisor, and by other influential adults in school, church, and scouting as a "natural born leader," a very organized and decisive individual, a young man in search of excellence rather than in contentedly maintaining the status quo, a class officer who initiated many new and creative ideas this year at Tabb, including some that became wildly popular and others much less so, but who nevertheless was willing to take risks for what he believed to be in the best interests of his classmates, and who could always be counted upon to actively and respectfully champion the desires and decisions of his fellow class representatives to the school administration; and

WHEREAS, Jon is commended by his nominator and Advanced Placement Chemistry teacher, a woman who has served as an active club sponsor and who has taught at Tabb High School since it opened 28 years ago, as being simply *the* most well-rounded young person she has ever known, with a level of maturity, responsibility, and overall competency that are beyond his years, a

sincere and courteous individual equally respected and well-liked by his fellow students and faculty members alike, a true role model for young people, and someone whom she concludes is “one of society’s best; whatever he does, wherever he goes, it will be profound;”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this ____ day of April, 2001, that Jonathan Duey be, and he is hereby, commended and congratulated for being selected as York County’s 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Overall Achievement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Jon be extended the sincere appreciation of the Board of Supervisors for his outstanding example as a student leader and role model to the youth of our community, and that the Board’s best wishes go with him as he continues to lead, positively influence, and serve others.

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Walter C. Zaremba
Sheila S. Noll
H.R. Ashe

On motion of _____, which carried ____, the following resolution was adopted:

A RESOLUTION TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE DONALD LYONS
ON HIS SELECTION AS THE 2001 YORK COUNTY OUTSTANDING
YOUTH OF THE YEAR FOR COURAGE

WHEREAS, the York County Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors established the Outstanding Youth of the Year Awards Program to recognize the accomplishments and achievements of York County's youth; and

WHEREAS, Donald Lyons was nominated and has been chosen by the Selection Committee to receive the 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year Award for Courage; and

WHEREAS, Donald Lyons exemplifies the meaning of the word courage, having persevered through the normal rigors of high school with a learning disability that has greatly affected the ease and amount of time it takes him to understand his school subjects, complete homework assignments, and prepare for quizzes and tests; and

WHEREAS, he has more than compensated for his learning weaknesses by the God-given strengths of a laser-like focus on his goals and a steely resolve to stay the course before him no matter what obstacles block his way; and

WHEREAS, Donald's father recounts how for a period of four or five years he worked especially long hours, routinely arriving home each night between 8:00 and 9:00, only to find Donald just as routinely studying and doggedly working on the homework that he had been at since earlier that afternoon; and

WHEREAS, though Donald's disability also affects his motor skills, through determination and

practice he became an accomplished ice hockey goalie, helping his team win two bragging rights championships amongst the local youth league teams practicing at the Ice Palace; and

WHEREAS, the five years that Donald practiced and played hockey at the Ice Palace two nights a week from 6:00 to 8:00 was a particular joy for him and his whole family, who enjoyed watching him as much as he thrilled at playing, and yet, of his own accord, he decided to abruptly give up the game he loved when he turned 18, reasoning that playing in the adult leagues, whose ice time was scheduled late at night, would interfere too much with his number one goal of succeeding in his schoolwork; and

WHEREAS, daily inner courage is a necessity for Donald in the pursuit of his goal of attaining academic success; and

WHEREAS, his nominator and Special Education teacher at Grafton High School attests that “it takes courage to approach teachers to ask for help because you do not understand the material...and because your learning disability makes processing the information difficult at the very least;” and

WHEREAS, she also affirms that “It shows courage to admit you have a problem to an entire classroom of your peers,” and “It takes courage to go into your heart and soul, fighting back the tears of frustration, to find the willpower to overcome a disability that no one can see and, therefore, not fully appreciate;” and

WHEREAS, it takes extraordinary courage to make the decision as Donald did at the beginning of his sophomore year to take an extra year to graduate so that he could earn a 23 credit *Advanced Certificate*; and

WHEREAS, this decision was once again Donald’s own idea, just as when he decided to give up his love of playing ice hockey; and

WHEREAS, Donald’s French teacher of four years describes him as the “most positive person I’ve ever met because he doesn’t complain that things are difficult or impossible but that they are *challenging*;” and

WHEREAS, this teacher states that Donald has very positively affected the attitude and outlook of her entire class, that he is well-liked for being so caring and showing a genuine interest in others, is highly esteemed by his classmates for being so competent and productive, and is sought by everyone as a partner for group projects because he is so organized and knows how to break down and approach a problem; and

WHEREAS, many of his teachers consider Donald to be a hero for his courage and for striving to be the best he can be at all he attempts to do, leading his nominator to assert that he has had to work harder than “any other student in this building;” and

WHEREAS, in spite of his learning disability, this bright young man possesses a love for history, widely reading and viewing educational television, taking time to memorize things of interest,

driven by a true wonder for learning about the world; and

WHEREAS, Donald's tireless work ethic, perseverance, and organizational ability are now all bearing fruit as he graduates this June in the *top third* of his class at Grafton High, has gained acceptance to attend college this fall, and has ensured himself a means for earning money through training as a dental assistant at New Horizons; and

WHEREAS, his outstanding accomplishments and hard won success seem best explained by the observation from his father that Donald "has a singular mind in terms of what he wants to do...whatever it takes to get there he does;"

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this _____ day of _____, 2001, that Donald Lyons be, and he is hereby, congratulated and commended by the York County Board of Supervisors as York County's 2001 Outstanding Youth of the Year for Courage.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Donald Lyons be publicly recognized as a most worthy recipient of the Outstanding Youth Award for Courage, that he be extended the sincere admiration and appreciation of the Board of Supervisors for his tremendous inspiration and example to us all, and that the Board's best wishes go with him for a most rewarding and blessed life, and a future filled with continued triumph.